

The Electronic Systems Center's Hansconian

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Hanscom ready for UCI

by **Chuck Paone**
ESC Public Affairs

A team of 65 inspectors from Air Force Materiel Command is scheduled to arrive at Hanscom Sunday.

The team, which will be met by Electronic Systems Center Vice Commander Brig. Gen. Ted McFarland, will conduct an inbrief that day and will begin the anticipated Unit Compliance Inspection the next morning.

The team will conclude the inspection with an exit briefing Feb. 15, at which time a formal report will be delivered to the center's command staff.

According to AFMC Instruction 90-202, a UCI has four main objectives: to evaluate items or activities required for safety; to evaluate an organization's ability to execute a management system that leads to sustained, effective mission performance; to identify obstacles to mission accomplishment and to identify best practices.

The inspection team will use a three-tier rating system: In Compliance, a rating given when few, if any, deficiencies exist; In Compliance With Exception, given when resources and programs are relatively free of deficiencies; and Not in Compliance, a rating issued when resources and programs are found not to be adequately managed.

"The UCI provides an opportunity to share ESC benchmark processes with the MAJCOM, as well as recognition of outstanding performers and outstanding performer teams," said ESC Inspector General Col. Paul Maryeski.

"I am confident that ESC will inspect well," says colonel Maryeski, noting that the center has been preparing for some time. Although UCIs are only conducted, on average, every three years, Colonel Maryeski cites the continuous nature of

other inspections as further reason for optimism.

"Inspections here are continuous," he says. The Air Force Audit Agency, the Air Force Inspection Agency, the Department of Defense Inspector General and the General Accounting Office all have provided inspections of various program areas recently. Colonel Maryeski also listed numerous Air Force and AFMC special interest items, such as the Information Assurance Program and the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Ability to Survive and Operate Procedures, as ongoing inspection initiatives.

"Also, Y2K was a significant inspection in itself," said Colonel Maryeski. "There, Hanscom's extensive programmatic and readiness preparations paid off, as only a few minor problems were encountered across ESC's mission spectrum."

Each center two-letter has had the opportunity to review the official reports on other AFMC bases that have recently undergone UCIs. This represents another key step in the preparation process.

The scope of the inspection will be wide, according to Colonel Maryeski, who said that each center two-letter can expect to be visited by some member or members of the team. The UCI will not, however, resemble last summer's Operational Readiness Inspection, which featured some disruptions to normal business operations. "The UCI will be transparent to many people on base," said Colonel Maryeski.

Nevertheless, the UCI will be comprehensive, and the final report is expected to be substantial. Center two-letters will have 60 days to respond to any findings included in the team's report, and those responses must be sent out under the center commander's signature.

As for the value of the inspection itself, Colonel Maryeski characterizes it this way: "It's healthy. It's like getting a physical."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Lewis

Scrub-A-Dub-Dub

Tech. Sgt. Matthew A. Trischler, program administrator for the Electronic Systems Center's command chief master sergeant, puts some finishing touches on his truck after taking it through the Services 'Touchless Car Wash' next to the post office. With old automatic car wash systems, cars were sometimes scratched and antennas broken off. This will not happen with the new system. In a New England winter, salt is used to keep the roads safe but the salt can cause rust on metal surfaces. The new touchless system will keep vehicles clean and slow down the corrosive process.

Center to showcase latest in command and control

by **Kevin Gilmartin**
ESC Public Affairs

The base work force, along with distinguished visitors and community members, will have the opportunity to see Electronic Systems Center's people and programs working together Feb. 23 through the 29 as the base holds a Command and Control demonstration at Hanscom's new conference center in Bldg. 1106.

The Command and Control Warfighter Demonstration, similar to past demonstrations known as Fort Franklin and Hevey's

Hangar, will tie together a number of ESC-developed command and control systems. These systems will operate within a scenario dubbed Operation Ensure Liberty.

"There are a number of benefits to holding this demonstration," said Col. Edward L. Mahan Jr., program director for the Integrated Command and Control System Program Office. "First and foremost, it offers our workforce an opportunity to see how the systems they are working on fit into the overall integrated command and control system that Electronic Systems Center is developing for the Air Force. Secondly, it allows us to realistically display the importance of these leading edge

systems to the public giving them a better understanding of the importance of our mission. Finally, it highlights the continued teaming of our sharpest government military and civilians with industry partners to work side by side in solving interoperability issues."

This base-wide effort is using all Hanscom team members to showcase the critical services they provide to warfighting commanders. "This is a great opportunity for not only Hanscom employees and their families, but also our local community partners to witness Hanscom Air Force Base in action," said Colonel Mahan.

Straight Talk

Straight Talk provides two-way communication between the 66th Air Base Wing commander and people on base. A 24 hour-a-day telephone line and E-mail account (Hanscom STRAIGHT TALK) are set up as ways for Hanscom's population to submit questions, complaints or comments, anonymously, if desired. All concerns are personally reviewed by the wing commander.

However, the quickest and most efficient way to communicate comments or complaints is to go right to the source. To assist you, we've listed points of contact and telephone numbers for several key support organizations.

Also, don't forget your supervisor, commander or first sergeant. They're there to help you.

If you are not satisfied with the



Col. Chris T. Anzalone
66th Air Base Wing commander

response you receive, or are unable to solve the problem, please call the Straight Talk hot line at 3-3732.

■ 66th Air Base Wing Vice Commander Col. Peggy A. Shaw.....3-2301	Lt. Col. Robert Taylor.....3-3901
■ 66th Support Group Commander Col. Robert R. Tovado.....3-2302	■ 66th Mission Support Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Darrell P. Keating.....3-8875
■ ESC Command Chief Master Sergeant Chief Master Sgt. Frank W. Holmes Jr.3-5115	■ 66th Security Forces Squadron Commander Maj. Roger A. McNeal.....3-4150
■ 66th Medical Group Commander Col. Charles Armstead.....3-4703	■ Communication, Information Division Director Lt. Col. Denise Taylor.....3-7500
■ 66th Civil Engineer Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Thomas J. Schluckebier.....3-3526	■ Civilian Personnel Division Director L. Fay Striker.....3-2723
■ 66th Services Squadron Commander	■ 66th Logistics Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Frank Rechner.....3-3461

The Electronic Systems Center's Hansconian

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Submissions must be received at least one week prior to each Friday's publication.

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To purchase a display ad call Kurt Anderson at 978-371-5705.

Classified ads

Hansconian free classified ads are available to anyone affiliated with the base. Ads run for two weeks.

Business and rental ads are available for a fee. Call (781) 433-7940.

To place an ad, first complete a classified ad form. Forms are available in the ESC Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1606, Room 109.

Next, mail the form through BITC to ESC/PA, fax a copy to Theresa Feely at 3-5077 or hand-carry it to the above location. Deadline is noon Friday.

For more information, call the Hansconian office at 3-3912.

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Commentary

TRICARE Prime

Question/Comment: I am becoming increasingly frustrated with TRICARE. Both my children and my wife are enrolled in TRICARE Prime and always have been. Lately, it seems like every time one of my family members needs an appointment, it is a month before they can be seen. When my children get sick and there are no appointments available, we are told to go to our local emergency room. Of course, the emergency room doctors never deem it to be an emergency, so my wife spends hours there waiting to be seen. When the bills come due, TRICARE doesn't cover everything so I end up paying \$50 to \$100 for each visit. I'm frustrated and have complained, but the situation doesn't seem to be improving.

Response: You are experiencing the "growing pains" of transitioning to TRICARE. We have found that many experience similar frustrations, so we have installed new procedures - our Millenium Health Plan - to help mitigate these very issues.

Under our new procedures, a TRICARE Prime enrollee can now call the clinic directly at 3-7059 to schedule an appointment for an urgent problem like a sick child. This number gives you access to the base clinic's appointment clerk and to registered nurses, who can help you with information and ensure access to the correct level of care.

Additionally, 66th Medical Group people are constantly monitoring the appointment system to make sure there are enough openings available to meet patient needs.

Another new feature of our Millennium Health Plan is the Partners in Care program. This program is designed to give TRICARE Prime enrollees access to over-the-counter medications and to promote greater self reliance in managing health. The free Partners in Care class is held in the base clinic conference room Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. You can make an appointment to attend the class by calling the Health and Wellness Center at 3-6560.

According to the 66th Medical Group staff, bills for services provided by off-base doctors should be limited to the required nominal co-payment. In general, claims that are properly pre-authorized by the military facility and properly submitted by the civilian doctor will be paid in 30 days. If a biller charges you more than the co-payment amount, the TRICARE Service Center personnel located in building 1605 will be happy to look at the statements and help you resolve the situation. I highly advise you to use this service to ensure you don't pay more than you have to.

If you have any other questions or concerns about TRICARE, please call the TRICARE office at 3-2120 or the patient advocate officer at 3-5009.

Peters talks identity, BRAC possibilities

by Ray Johnson
Edwards AFB, Calif.

Edwards AFB, Calif. - Has the Air Force lost its identity? No, but it does need one with more focus, said the man responsible for ensuring the Air Force meets its current and future missions. F. Whitten Peters, secretary of the Air Force, during a recent visit here said: "We need to come up with a better way to integrate the service that allows us to get past the tribal community we have been for many years." Explanation: Air Force people have a tendency to identify themselves by their job or unit instead of what they are - airmen. Moreover, there seems to be no current unifying theme.

"We want people to think of themselves as a single force with lots of capabilities," Peters stressed, referring to Air Force contributions during Operation Allied Forces in Kosovo last spring. "We are trying to pull the Air Force together."

Plus, the secretary noted a better identity is needed for recruiting, which has been declining steadily. In fact, the Air Force missed its recruiting goal by 1,700 last year.

Peters wants a "consistent image," especially for those - high school counselors and the like - who influence young people by talking with them daily

about their options in life.

He also wants an image that people can recall readily. Being frank, he said:

"People remember the Army's 'Be All You Can Be' slogan. That's what we are striving for - what we are slowly working toward. It's an evolving project." Peters also touched on another key concern: retention. Like recruiting, the numbers have been dropping, causing a red flag to go up at the Pentagon.

He listed the issues that affect peoples' decisions to stay in or separate: pay, retirement plans, operations tempo and medical care. The secretary believes the military is back on the right track for such concerns. Servicemembers received a hefty raise and more are planned for upcoming years. Fifty percent pay at retirement after 20 years of service is again an option.

The expeditionary aerospace force rotation concept will hopefully reduce deployments and lead stability to the military lifestyle. And TRICARE problems are being addressed head-on. "We are working an initiative to try and put more primary care practitioners on bases," Peters said. "That way, everyone possibly could see a doctor on base ... which is something



F. Whitten Peters

many retirees want." For such continued improvements, the secretary believes another base realignment and closure round is needed, saying "we have too few people chasing too many bases."

But he admitted there is a stumbling block: many in Congress perceive that politics played too big a role in decisions made during the last BRAC. But despite Congress rejecting calls for a new BRAC the past two years, Peters thinks "folks on the Hill now know we need more base closures." He added that leaders of both parties have said that if necessary, they would push for another round if the next administration makes the request.

Ryan discuss EAF, Raptor progress during Tuzla visit

by Staff Sgt. Jody Clor
401st Expeditionary Air Base Group Public Affairs

Tuzla AB, Bosnia-Herzegovina — An air traffic controller shocked the Air Force chief of staff when she uttered two simple words during his hour-long visit with members of the 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group Jan. 13.

"Thank you," said Staff Sgt. Missi White, after Gen. Michael E. Ryan opened the floor for discussion. The nine-year controller said everyone has questions and concerns about how the Air Force works, but she just wanted to show her gratitude to Washington and the Air Force leader.

"For the last two years, I've been in places (and seen) how the other services live," said the noncommissioned officer from McGuire AFB, N.J. "Thank you for taking care of us. Nothing is perfect, but we are a lot better off."

General Ryan seemed awestruck by the comment. After taking a moment to collect his thoughts, he let out a deep breath and said, "Thank you," right back to Sergeant White.

The 35-year Air Force veteran continued by saying, "When we go someplace, we make it the best we can and leave it better for the people who follow. If you give people a good place to work and good tools to do it with, you get great productivity. You also have great morale to get the job done."

The general also talked about the expeditionary aerospace force concept, pay and edu-

cational benefits, and funding for the F-22 program during his visit.

Second Lt. Geoffrey Dawson, from the weather flight, wanted to know about the current deployment cycle rotation and how it will affect families where both spouses are military members.

"I know right now we're set up for more predictability and stability with deployments planned for three months out of a 15-month cycle. However for dual military couples, will you make an assertive effort to put both spouses in the same block so a three-month window won't turn into a six-month window for the family?" Lieutenant Dawson asked.

"Some will want it that way (the three-month window). Some parents will want to split it so that one parent is at home while the other is deployed," said General Ryan. "We're going to have to leave that at the unit level.

"We're still experimenting, so help us by going back and asking these questions at your base," he added.

One member of the security forces flight asked if the Saudi Arabia slots would remain remote assignments for officers and senior NCOs.

"Yes, we need to maintain stability in leadership and continuity," General Ryan said. A lot of those will remain. We're just going to have to do that for leadership."

Turning to education, Master Sgt. Tony Lawson, who works at the control tower, said that from an educational standpoint, deployments have made it harder and harder

to finish degrees. He wanted to know if that square will be blocked again on senior NCO boards.

"Once we get into the new (aerospace expeditionary force) rotation, we think most people will have the opportunity to predict what courses they can take. They'll know when they will deploy, so we will stop the blocking after we begin AEF."

General Ryan put on a wide smile and dove into the discussion with great enthusiasm after someone asked about the F-22 Raptor program. The memory of his flying chase against the F-22 at Edwards AFB, Calif., Jan. 11 was still etched into his mind as he painted a picture that had the crowd stunned.

"This (F-22) is a real airplane. I'm in an F-16 with a 129 motor in it and this is the best F-16 the Air Force has. I take off and come back around. The F-22 starts rolling. I light the burner and I give the F-16 everything it can take," he said. "I try to keep it up to the Raptor but it goes straight up and starts walking away from me. We rolled over at about 30,000 feet and start accelerating out. He's out at 1.6 Mach and I'm still back trying to catch up to him in full afterburner and he's just in low power. For a pilot, that's amazing."

The general used hand gestures to show how the jet began a most unusual vertical climb. "The F-22 goes up into a 60-degree stall, what would be a stall for any of us. In the F-16, if you do this, you start falling like a rock," he added.

But, said General Ryan, the most amazing part of this aircraft isn't the maneuverability,



Gen. Michael E. Ryan

the super cruise capability or its stealth capabilities. It's the avionics.

"It's going to have avionics that talk to each other, and talk to outside sources. This will plug in all sorts of information to give the pilot a great heads-up display," he said. "Integrating all this computer power is really the revolutionary part of the aircraft.

General Ryan, who flew 149 combat missions during the Vietnam conflict, said, "We want to make sure it's not a fair fight if we have to go into places like Serbia or Iraq. I'm not interested in fair fights. What I'm interested in is a 100-to-nothing score," he said. "We should never ask our people to go into harm's way ... unless they have the best equipment. That's why we need it."



photo by Mark Wyatt

Making a point

Col. Edward L. Mahan Jr., program director of the Integrated Command and Control System Program Office at the Electronic Systems Center, discusses an ESC program with Lt. Gen. Stephen B. Plummer, principal deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition. General Plummer visited Hanscom Feb. 2 for a series of informational briefings.

Base organization sweeps awards competition

by Master Sgt. Gwen E. La Muro
Air Force Research Laboratory

Hanscom people swept every category at the recent Air Force Research Laboratory Space Vehicles Directorate's Annual Military Awards competition.

The results were released Jan. 25, in a message sent to all 744 members of the geographically separated directorate.

The Space Vehicles Directorate, which is the equivalent of a center 2-letter organization, is headquartered at Kirtland AFB, N.M., and has a division here at Hanscom.

The directorate's Airman of the Year is Senior

Airman Melissa Jadwinski, a network security analyst. The Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Tech. Sgt. Joseph Arsenault, is the Noncommissioned Officer in charge of the equipment control unit for the laboratory at Hanscom. The Senior Noncommissioned Officer winner, Master Sgt. Timothy Harold, is the chief of human resources management, and the Company Grade Officer winner, Capt. Brian Pukall, is the lab's squadron section commander.

The directorate's winners will now compete at the AFRL competition, and the winners will be announced Thursday at AFRL's annual awards banquet at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Military Personnel Flight, command's best for 1999

by Capt. Erik T. Bovasso
66th Mission Support Squadron

The 66th Military Personnel Flight was named the 1999 Gerrit D. Foster Jr. award winner for outstanding performance as the top Military Personnel Flight, Category II, in Air Force Materiel Command.

AFMC presents the award annually and is named in honor of the late Colonel Gerrit

Foster, a former Field Activities Division Chief with the then named Air Force Military Personnel Center.

The award reflects the tremendous dedication and commitment to ensure the best personnel service was provided to commanders and members at Hanscom.

"The award reflects Colonel Foster's tremendous dedication and commitment to ensure the best personnel service was pro-

vided to commanders and members at base level," said an AFPC official.

The 66th Military Personnel Flight earned this prestigious award for continuous process improvement, exceptional service to customers and local commanders, strong outreach and enrichment programs, special procedures for supporting contingency and mobility operations, and local community involvement.

TRICARE continues to improve, JCS chairman says

by **Army Staff Sgt. Kathleen T. Rhem**

American Forces Press Service

Washington – The Department of Defense has made huge strides in quality-of-life issues, but healthcare for service members and their families still needs serious work, the nation's top military officer said Jan. 31.

"To have implemented TRICARE worldwide in five years with its 8.3 million beneficiaries is quite an accomplishment," Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in opening remarks at the three-day 2000 TRICARE Conference here. "A tremendous amount has been achieved, but I'm sure you'll all agree with me that we still have a long way to go."

General Shelton told his audience of some 400 civilian and military healthcare providers and administrators that healthcare is one of DoD's "big four" quality-of-life issues — the building blocks of a quality volunteer force. The other three are pay and compensation, retirement benefits, and housing.

He cited the 4.8 percent pay raise, pay table reform and repeal of the Redux retirement plan in the fiscal 2000 budget as examples of the defense leadership's commitment to recruit and retain a quality force. Also, Defense Secretary William Cohen in January announced a major initiative to eliminate out-of-pocket housing costs within five years.

"This year we've got to address healthcare," General Shelton said. "The bottom line is that our service members and their families must be able to count on their healthcare system. Our fighting men and women on the frontlines of freedom need to know that their families are being taken care of."

He told the group that thanks to e-mail, today's deployed troops know almost immediately if there is a problem with healthcare at home. "While they are doing their job taking care of the nation's defense, they expect us to provide an effective, user-friendly healthcare system," he said.

Overall, TRICARE beneficiaries may say they're satisfied with the healthcare they receive, but many complain about the

process of getting that care, General Shelton said. "Every time I talk to them, one of their most frequent complaints is ... with the process it takes to finally get the care they need," he said.

"To the health system's credit, once our men and women and families receive care, few of them complain about the quality of care or the attitude of the healthcare providers," he told the conference attendees. "This is a bright spot in the system, and when it works it is the result of the hard work that you all do."

General Shelton said many frustrations can be traced to poor customer relations and bad business practices. TRICARE's regional structure works against consistency in such "common-sense areas" as appointments, claims and enrollment, he noted.

"As many of you know, TRICARE requires that members re-enroll every time they change regions, something that occurs frequently as our service members and their families must pick up and move every two to three years," he said. "This adds to their stress and frustration, and oftentimes, their workload."

Another concern is that there are differences in benefits between those stationed stateside and those stationed overseas.

"These challenges require our urgent attention," General Shelton said.

He noted that Dr. Sue Bailey, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, addressed the Joint Chiefs in January and laid out a plan and a schedule to fix these

issues. But that's still not enough, he said.

"We ask our service members to be ready to serve any time, anywhere. They expect no less from their healthcare system," he said. "If a service member can't count on TRICARE when it's needed, then when the time comes to re-enlist, the answer might just be 'no.' In short, TRICARE can't be just an insurance agency; it must be much more."

General Shelton said he has testified



We ask our service members to be ready to serve any time, anywhere. They expect no less from their healthcare system."

**Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Army Gen. Henry Shelton**

□ Ensuring every installation has a TRICARE hot line. This is "not to bypass the chain of command, but to bring medical care issues to the attention of the appropriate people at the appropriate levels," General Shelton said.

□ Increasing retirees' benefits. Important first steps would be to increase pharmacy benefits and to fully fund and expand TRICARE Senior Prime. "Our retirees deserve the healthcare that they have earned and

DoD committed to," he said.

□ Establishing a healthcare network to meet the needs of all beneficiaries. Start this with automatic enrollment of all active duty members and their families, General Shelton said. He said beneficiaries should have quick, easy access to care managers, and fair and timely claim payments. All enrollees need to know who their primary care manager is and how to contact them. "I applaud your recent initiative to make sure that the patient knows his doctor by name," he said. "This is just plain good medicine."

□ Changing "navigation" to make the system as customer-focused and as easy to use as possible. "Many service members' attitudes toward TRICARE stem from their experiences on the telephone," General Shelton said. "Our service members and their families should not be forced to wait on the phone and listen to recordings for 20 minutes just to secure an appointment." He said another irritant, the claims process, should be "invisible to the active duty members and simplified for all others."

The chairman told the group his staff will work actively with DoD's new Defense Medical Oversight Committee, which aims to address current irritants and future benefits of the military healthcare system.

He urged managers to test their own systems. "For those who are military healthcare members, try not wearing your uniform one day — you've got my permission — and walk into the TRICARE offices you're responsible for to see how you're treated," he said. "If you find things not to your liking, fix them."

"Remember, if it's hard for you, imagine what it's like for the young, inexperienced mother of two whose husband is deployed to Bosnia or Kosovo or any of the other garden spots our troops are deployed to," General Shelton said.

He told the group they should act as advocates for their beneficiaries, not adversaries.

"You work on behalf of our warriors and their families. They need your support, and I know that you are committed to helping them," he said. "It is my goal that a future chairman a few years from now can come before you and say with conviction, 'Our healthcare system is a success and better than any other in the world, bar none.'"

Electronic Systems Center nominee wins small business award

The U.S. Small Business Administration has selected an Electronic Systems Center contractor, Gemini Industries Inc. of Billerica, Mass., as the Small Business Prime Contractor of 1999 for New England.

The award recognizes firms that have demonstrated excellence in performing work under contract. In December, a panel of judges consisting of representatives from government and industry as well as prior award recipients met to evaluate small business nominees. Gemini will now compete for the national award to be presented by the president later this year.

Mr. Dave Condon, director of ESC's Small Business Office, nominated Gemini, a contractor taking part in the Information Technology Support Program at Hanscom. Under the program, Gemini has received new

contracts valued at \$18.5 million to provide engineering and management support services for the development of electronic systems.

"Gemini's performance demonstrates its ability to reduce costs while maintaining the quality of service and 'on time' delivery of products," Condon said.

According to Mr. Condon the Air Force has embarked on an initiative to dramatically increase the amounts of contracts with women-owned small businesses, such as Gemini Inc.

Gemini Industries Inc. specializes in providing engineering and management support services to the federal government and private industry. Over the past five years, Gemini has almost tripled in size, winning all re-competitions of existing contracts. Gemini's operations have

expanded to Maryland, Virginia, Colorado, California, New Jersey and Texas. Today, the company's \$30 million business base includes the Department of Defense, Department of Transportation and Department of Health and Human Services. Projects involve engineering support to electronic physical security systems, military intelligence interpretation systems, communications systems as well as information systems support and operations support.

"It is a great honor to be nominated by Mr. Dave Condon and the Electronic Systems Center," said Ms. Victoria Bondoc, president of Gemini. "I work with a group of dedicated professionals at Gemini who provide quality products and services to our customers every day. These individuals deserve the credit for this achievement."

Home is where the heart is

Chaplain talks about how leaving home is never easy

by Chaplain (Maj.) Gary L. Smith

Base Chapel

Leaving home is never an easy thing.

I am sure every one of you have a heated internal or external debate in your mind at home as to whether or not to stay or to leave home to attend church on a Sunday. Your choice was to either stay under your heavy covers in your warm homes or to get up and leave the comforts of home to worship.

What are we doing here? It is minus 30 degrees and there is a wind chill factor as well, the chapel heating system is taxed to the maximum, and someone had to start your car this morning.

Just what are you doing here?

Two fishermen were asked to leave their father and family business to sacrifice and do something different in their lives ... to serve others. They were asked to leave the security and predictability of home and family to venture into the unknown. And they did so.

We have friends deployed to places all over the world who have also left the security and predictability of their own homes and family to venture into the unknown. They have saluted and gone to serve.

Monsignor Sandi announced this past fall that if any Catholics on base wanted their homes blessed they could sign up, and in January he would come and bless their homes. He thought 10 or so people might sign up.

By early December, 128 Catholic families signed up to have their homes blessed ... home visitation.

So Monsignor Sandi did what any sensible priest who had that many homes to bless in this frigid weather would do. He deployed ... to the safety of Bosnia. Where there is so much snow he had to be flown in by helicopter to minister for the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and DoD civilians.

The reserve priest we were able to call onto active duty, Father (Lt. Col.) Roger Jacques, asked me what he would be doing during his 90-day tour to backfill for Chaplain Sandi. "Oh, just be a priest" I told him.

Recently Father Jacques came into my office and asked, "Did you know there are 128 homes to bless ... this month?" I grinned and told him. "I forgot about the blessing of the homes" (Selective memory they call it. Or selective marketing). Of course, all 128 families want their homes blessed when they are home, and many of them are not home until the

evening when the temperature is even colder.

Father Jacques is a very busy priest. He doesn't get to spend much time in a warm office. He is out blessing homes.

Even Father Jacques had to leave home to serve, from his home to Hanscom, and he did so willingly.

Leaving home to go serve is never an easy decision. The counseling load for chaplains around the world is high as we deal with young airmen who have left home for the first time to serve their country.

Let's remember Chaplain Sandi and all our other deployed people who have left the comforts of their homes to serve our nation and our soldiers in remote places in the world. We pray for their safe and expedient return.

And let's remember the UCI inspection team as they leave the security and comfort of their homes to come here to help us be prepared to serve our country on a minute's notice. We look forward to both their arrival and departure. May the in-between time be productive as we show them how ready we are.

Oh, the Protestant Blessing of the Homes will be held later this year ... in the summer when it is much warmer!



photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Lewis

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Roger Jacques blesses one of the 120 homes that will be blessed this January.

African-American Heritage commemorated in February

by **Capt. Ronald Cleaves**
Joint Stars

There are a variety of uniquely African American holidays and commemorations observed throughout the year in the United States, from Martin Luther King Day in January to Kwanzaa in December. However, there is only one commemoration that tries to illuminate nearly 400 years of African-American history and achievements in America. This commemoration is called Black History or African-American Heritage Month. In 1926, scholar and author Carter G.

Woodson established Negro History Week to highlight African American contributions to the United States.

What was a week’s recognition has turned into the full month, of February, in order to include the birthdays of the great anti-slavery activist Frederick Douglass and of President Abraham Lincoln.

This annual observance provides an opportunity to spotlight all aspects of the African American experience.

Many schools and cultural organizations hold special exhibitions, lectures, concerts, poetry readings, movies and

panel discussions.

Children can be encouraged to pay tribute to the past by reading books about inspiring historical figures and achievement in black history, according to the African American desk reference.

The national theme for African American Heritage Month is “Heritage and Horizons: The African-American Legacy and the Challenges of the 21st Century.” At Hanscom, the African American Heritage Committee has planned numerous events in commemoration of African American achievement. Contact the following POCs for event details:

- ☐ Sunday, Classical Concert, Chaplain (Capt.) Saucier at 271-5830.
- ☐ Feb. 12, Jazz Concert, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Smith at 3-2291.
- ☐ Feb. 18, Middle School Essay Contest, Tech . Sgt. Aurther Lusby at 3-1516and Senior Airman Jason Stiles at 3-2297.
- ☐ Feb. 25, Chiefs and Eagles Basketball Tournament, Staff Sgt. Anthony Fleming at 3-2024.
- ☐ Feb. 26, Heritage Banquet, Capt. Ronald Cleaves at 3-7838.
- ☐ Feb. 28, National Prayer Lunch, Chaplain Saucier at 3-3538.

Tips offered to help pets from taking the deep freeze

by **Senior Airman Jason J. Ide**
ESC Public Affairs

In New England, winter weather can be somewhat unpredictable. Winters here include freezing winds, ice storms, sleet, slush and just plain cold temperatures. People bundle up in warm coats, turn up the thermostat a little higher (or a lot) and run out to heat up the car 10 minutes before going anywhere. Anything to keep warm. Other team Hanscom members who sometimes get neglected in this weather are pets.

The following is a list of tips offered by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to help pets battle “Old Man Winter.”

- ☐ Bring pets inside, particularly young, small or short haired animals. Short-haired pets benefit from the added insulation of sweaters or coats as well.
- ☐ Provide pets with proper shelter.

Doghouses should be made of wood or plastic (metal conducts cold) and positioned in a sunny place. The floor of the house should be several inches off the ground and a flap should cover the door to keep out drafts. Use straw or cedar shavings for bedding, drugs and blankets can get wet and freeze.

- ☐ Don’t allow pets to roam freely outside.

Cats have been known to climb up under the hoods of cars to be near the warm engine and get killed or injured when the car is started. To help prevent this people can bang on the hood of their cars before they start them to scare out any potential stowaways.

Animals can also become disoriented with snow and ice covering everything. Everything looks different to them and they can get lost.

- ☐ Increase the amount of food pets receive as they burn more calories to keep their bodies warm during winter.
- ☐ Clean up pets after they come back indoors. Salt and other chemicals can make them sick if they ingest it from cleaning themselves off.
- ☐ Provide a source of water for pets outdoors. Break any ice that forms over the pets water source at least twice a day.

For information call the base veterinary clinic at 3-3266.

VA Hospital sponsors Salute Day

The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford is sponsoring a Salute Day as part of its observation of the annual National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans.

Hanscom military members are encouraged to participate.

The Salute will run Feb. 14 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a brief ceremony from 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Then, escorted by hospital staff, military volunteers will visit

with patients and hand out special Valentine's Day items, including valentines prepared by children at the Hanscom Youth Center. A brief reception with refreshments will be held after visits are completed.

Bus transportation to and from the Enlisted Club parking lot will be provided. The bus will depart at 12:40 p.m. and return at approximately 5:15 p.m. Those wanting to go to this event should contact Chuck Paone at 3-5078.

Project points way to DoD housing solution

by **Jim Garamone**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Department of Defense military housing privatization effort made a great step forward with the award of a contract to privatize all housing on Fort Carson, Colo.

After a slow start the initiatives at Fort Carson and at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, are pointing to new ways to improve service members' quality of life.

Congress gave DoD the privatization authority so the department could leverage private sector capital to help fix military housing. DoD estimates it would need 30 years under the old military construction system to deal with the 205,000 substandard housing units it has today. Under the privatization program, officials believe they can work off the backlog in 10 years.

"We don't have enough money in our military construction program to fix it the old way," said Joe Sikes DoD program coordinator. "So, basically we get private sector expertise and private sector capital to help us fix military housing."

There are two types of privatization efforts — on-base and off-base. Contracts for on-base programs are let for 50 years, Sikes said, and this is the length of the Fort Carson contract. DoD may give the land or housing to private companies or lease it to them.

"The Carson project is the first where we took the housing from the whole base and put it into the privatization project. The scope of it is much larger than any privatization we've done before," Sikes said.

Off-base housing is where the private company buys its own land in the civilian community and builds the houses. These contracts can be for any length of time.

But this does not mean the normal military construction housing will go away. "We believe you have to have a mixture for housing," Sikes said. "In some areas it will not make sense to privatize military family housing."

DoD also only has this authority domestically. "We will continue military construction for our overseas bases," Sikes said. "A mixture of privatization and normal military construction should allow the department to meet our housing requirements for service members."

In short, DoD believes that by getting better private sector practices service members will get better housing. "The short term measure of success of the program will be when we start to cut into this 205,000 units of housing that needs to be fixed," Sikes said.

The long-term success will be based on how the housing privatization projects are executed. "It's whether the privatized housing stays good over the long term," he said. "We believe we have adequate controls over the life of the project."

Sikes said officials are getting positive feedback about quality of housing already built under the program. "Of course it's still new," he said, "but what we're hearing is feedback on some of the amenities. For example, one Navy housing project has community center with pool attached. Normally, in on-base housing if you want to go to the pool you have to go to the base pool. It's part of the advantage you get through treating this like private sector housing."

Through fiscal 2001, DoD expects to privatize 31,500 units. In fiscal 1993, DoD privatized more than 1000 units. In fiscal 1999, 2,700 units were privatized. This fiscal year, DoD plans to privatize 21,600 units.

All services are currently preparing family housing master plans to define how they want to take care of their inventory of bad housing over the next six years, Sikes said. He expects those plans in the summer.

Air Force contract awarded: Lackland — 420 units
Proposed Air Force projects: Robins AFB, Ga. — 670 units
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska — 828 units
Dyess AFB, Texas — 402 units
Kirtland AFB, N.M. — 1,890 units
Patrick AFB, Fla. — 960 units
Dover AFB, Del. — 450 units
McGuire AFB/Fort Dix, N.J. — 999 units
Tinker AFB, Okla. — 730 units

CMSAF addresses BAH reform concerns

by **Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch**

Headquarters United States Air Force

From time to time, issues come up that seem to ripple through the force creating some anxiety. When pay table reform was announced several months ago, many people became emotionally charged because they misunderstood the intent of the overall reform or relied on anecdotal explanations floating around that often twisted information out of context. However, the issue died down considerably once we were able to get the facts out and explain the direction we were headed.

This month, the Department of Defense announced changes to the basic allowance for housing rates, and some have taken exception to the new rates. Now, I realize we could have avoided a few concerns had we done a better job of sending out more information about the changes before they took effect. I assure you we will continue to work on the process of getting you "up front" information on changes impacting you. For now, I want to make sure you are armed with some very important facts concerning the changes to BAH.

First, the changes in the BAH table are designed to provide a housing allowance that helps even the "out-of-pocket" expenses you and your peers pay regardless of where you are assigned. As you may recall, the former basic allowance for quarters program favored those assigned to low-cost areas around the country at the expense of those located in high-cost areas. This meant adequate housing was extremely difficult to find for airmen at many locations. Also, for years I received complaints from many of you that the variable housing allowance system was broken. You didn't know what your rate would be from year to year and believed VHA favored more senior people who had additional discretionary income. BAH addresses both of these concerns.

Second, if you review the complete BAH table, you will find the rates dropped for some locations and increased for others. These new BAH rates were

determined by a private firm and then independently confirmed using a number of sources. It's important to realize the rates are based only on rental costs for a standard of housing listed for each pay grade. As a side note, we are also reviewing the housing standards BAH uses.

Third, those of you in areas where BAH declined are now rate protected ... unlike in the former BAQ/VHA program. This means you will continue to receive the higher BAH rate until you move (PCS) or change your status. For example, a change in dependent status, or demotion would change your BAH rate, while a promotion will not cause your BAH to drop. Overall, rate protection will mitigate any loss in housing income for the vast majority of people.

Lastly, senior leaders are working for more improvements to housing compensation. Recently, Secretary of Defense William Cohen announced plans to reduce the out-of-pocket housing expense we collectively pay from an average of 18.8 percent this year to 15 percent next year. The secretary's goal is to eliminate (by the year 2005) the out-of-pocket for median rental costs throughout the United States.

The bottom line is this: Look at BAH in terms of your entire career and all the locations you may be assigned, as opposed to passing judgment on BAH based on a single line-item change to the table. Talk with your first sergeant, command chief master sergeant, or commander to find out the facts and standards used to determine BAH. Also, your housing experts can help you understand the true rental costs for your area. If you still have questions or concerns, please raise them through proper channels so we can get them resolved.

I hope that when you have all of the facts, you'll agree BAH was the right direction to take as we continue to find ways to improve housing for our military men and women. You can learn more about the BAH program at <http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bah.html>, which is designed to be a one-stop information source.

Commemoration service held in memory of national hero

by Chaplain (Capt.) Dennis Saucier
Base Chapel

Hanscom remembered Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a commemoration worship service Jan. 30 with Chaplain (Capt.) Bill Burrell as guest speaker.

Welcoming about 150 people, Col. Peggy Shaw, 66th Air Base Wing Vice Commander, reminded them that Dr King’s vision of racial equality and justice was tied to the promises of the Declaration of Independence, that God created all men equal with the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Ms. Sonia Perry honored the slain civil rights leader with her liturgical dance presentation interpreting various portions of Dr. King’s speeches.

The Gospel Service

Inspirational Voices of Praise Choir sang hymns and praise songs before Chaplain Burrell took to the pulpit.

Chaplain Burrell, former Hanscom base chaplain, took the pulpit calling on the audience to remember the mandate Dr. King received and passed on to future generations to work to fulfill the dream of racial equality. He recounted a past experience of being excluded from the town pool, which was for whites only, and concluded by saying he wanted his three children to have the opportunities he now enjoyed in the Air Force as a direct result of Dr. King’s work.

Army Sgt. Leon Thomas then offered a prayer for the nation.

The service ended with all joining hands and singing the well known civil rights hymn, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

Most house fires start in the kitchen

byTech. Sgt. Douglas C. True
Fire Prevention

The majority of fires in military family housing begin in the kitchen, with unattended stovetop cooking being the most common cause.

Early in December 1999 there was a house fire on Robbins AFB caused by the overheating of a seized electrical motor in a refrigerator, which ignited lint, cardboard, and other surrounding combustibles.

By the time the fire was extinguished more than \$82,000

damage was done to the home.

In order to make the kitchen a fire safe area the Fire Prevention Office has a few suggestions.

First and foremost is never leave stovetop cooking unattended. I have looked into no less than six home fires in my career and all but one had begun on the stovetop.

Secondly; clean under movable appliances, especially if there are cats or dogs which shed. Animal hair and lint build up under these appliances and is combustible.

In order to prevent burns keep

panhandles turned in away from the edge of the stove. This will prevent you from bumping into them and burning yourself and help prevent small children from pulling the pan and its contents down on them. If the pan’s contents do catch fire never attempt to lift and carry the pan outside. If the pan has a lid it can be placed over the pan to extinguish the fire or a fire extinguisher may be used.

Remember the Fire Department is here to help. Never be afraid to dial 911 as we still make house calls.

Next Equal list set for release Feb. 15

Randolph AFB, Texas — The newest Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing of available enlisted assignments overseas arrives at military personnel flights and on the Air Force Personnel Center’s World Wide Web homepage Feb. 15.

This list includes assignments for overseas jobs opening during the October through December 2000 time frame.

Personnel officials recommend updating assignment preferences by Feb. 25 to ensure the information is in the computer system before actual assignments are released on or about March 20.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements, by Air Force Specialty Code and rank, and gives people a chance to update their assignment preferences to match vacancies in a particular cycle. Members should review, priori-

tize and list specifically those assignment options available to them on EQUAL.

Separate listings for assignments available at overseas locations as well as assignments available for those returning from overseas areas are published quarterly. Special duty assignments appear on EQUAL-Plus and are updated weekly.

Military personnel flights and commander support staffs will have copies of the listings and can help people update their preferences. People who are on temporary duty during the advertising period should contact the nearest personnel office for assistance.

People can access the list on the AFPC homepage at *www.afpc.randolph.af.mil*; then click on the “military assignments” link.

Attic helps Hanscom people

by Barbara Fullerton
Family Services

Have you just PCSed and arrived here ahead of your furniture?

Are you getting married, but don’t know what you need to set up house?

Are you newly married and have no furniture to speak of?

The answers to these questions can be found in the Airman’s Attic.

Run by volunteers, the attic is a part of the Family Services, which falls under the Family Support Center, the attic helps newly married military couples, folks PCS-ing, retirees, active duty members and their families.

There are many items in the

attic that can help furnish a house.

Such as sofas, tables and chairs, bureaus, desks, entertainment centers, buffets and shelving units. Eligible individuals can check out, at no cost, any of these items. The loan period is three months, and extensions are usually available upon request. It is the responsibility of the borrower to transport the furniture (see your first sergeant for details).

Also if people have any furniture that you would like to donate to the attic, the center accepts donations of most large furniture, in very good condition, except mattresses, box springs and sleeper sofas.

To donate or borrow, call Family Services at 3-3436.

Calendar of Events

Upcoming and Weeklies

AFCEA annual February scholarship fundraiser

The Lexington-Concord Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association is once again holding its annual Valentines dinner dance February Scholarship Fundraiser at the Burlington Marriott Hotel Feb. 19.

Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Dinner includes a four-course meal.

As usual, there will be chocolates, favors, music and grand prizes. All proceeds go to the chapter's scholarship fund, which provides more than \$40,000 in scholarships to deserving students in the Hanscom area.

Cost is \$37.50 per person for government and military members, \$110 per person for industry representatives. To reserve a seat, send checks to Irene Biddy, 4 Murray Hill Rd., Chelmsford, Mass., 01824.

Changes to temporary living expense

Effective Oct. 5, 1999, TLE is now payable for enlisted members reporting to their permanent duty station from their home of record or initial technical school.

A member may split days among CONUS HOR or initial technical school, designated place in CONUS and CONUS permanent duty station; if first PDS is overseas, a member may split days between CONUS HOR or initial technical school and designated place in CONUS.

Volunteer for Family Services

With the advent of the New Year, are you looking for a rewarding experience that does not require a lot of time?

Would you like to work among adults for a few hours each week, while your preschoolers enjoy a few hours of interaction with others their own age?

Then consider volunteering at Family Services.

At Family Services, you can enjoy meeting and helping many new people and your children can interact with others at a certified on-base Child Care facility, or provider.

For volunteering your time, Family Services will pay for your child care.

For information, call the Family Services Volunteer Coordinator at 3-3436.

Volunteer welcomers needed

Family Services is looking for friendly people to help welcome new arrivals to Hanscom.

If you have two hours a week to spare, and a desire to help inform new arrivals about all that Hanscom and the surrounding area has to offer, call the Family Services Volunteer Coordinator at 3-3436.

Third annual Officers' Wives' Club Scholarship Ball

The third annual Officers' Wives' Club Scholarship Ball is March 25. Make plans now to attend. Watch for more information to come.

Wives' clubs offer scholarships

For the eighth year the Hanscom Wives' Clubs will join forces and combine the fruits of their individual fund-raisers to provide scholarships for some outstanding high school seniors and spouses in May.

There will be two special category awards. One will be in engineering and the other to a vocational-technical school.

All applications must be postmarked by March 17. All eligible students are urged to apply.

Selections will be made by a panel of impartial judges, who are in no way affiliated with the Hanscom wives' clubs.

Contact Dianne Popik at 275-3888, Ann Philips at 274-8048 or Lois LaFleur at 274-8110 for information.

Base volleyball teams

Both the men's and women's base volleyball teams are looking for players to play in the Air Force Material Command tournament this year. The teams will practice on Mondays 6-8 at the base gym. Any active duty military members interested please come to the practice on Mondays or contact Chris Barker at 3-9011 or e-mail Christopher.Barker@hanscom.af.mil or Erik Eichin at 3-2017 eichin@plh.af.mil

American Red Cross volunteers

The following volunteer opportunities are currently being offered at the American Red Cross, Newton Office:

- ☐ Office volunteers
- ☐ Community representatives
- ☐ CPR and first aid instructors

Volunteering for the American Red Cross provides you with an invaluable life experience and a sense of fulfillment only achieved by helping others. Begin making a difference today by contacting your local American Red Cross.

For information call, Teah Bayless, Program Manager, at (617) 527-6000.

High Year of Tenure Extension Program

The new fiscal year 2000 and fiscal year 2001 High Year of Tenure Extension Program is continuing. All Air Force specialties are eligible with certain grade restrictions in each of those specialties.

To see if you are eligible to apply for this retention program, call 3-3062 or 3-4979 or stop by the Military Personnel Flight Retirements and Separations office for an application.

Volunteers needed

One of Family Services' most popular services is the Stripes program.

This all-volunteer initiative helps E-1s through E-5s (and

the initial pin-on of E-6) by sewing rank and patches on uniforms for free.

This program saves airmen about \$2.50 per item sewn, and resulted in a savings for Hanscom airmen of \$2,190 last year.

Volunteer sewers are needed to keep this program alive. Volunteers sew about one half to two hours each week, depending upon the number of uniforms received.

To support this program or for information, call 3-3436 or 3-4222.

Hazardous waste turn-in

Household hazardous waste turn-in is at Bldg. 1820, Dow Street, in the 66th Civil Engineer Squadron complex from 8 to 9 a.m. every Tuesday.

This turn-in is available for both on-base residents and base organizations.

For information contact Robert Spelfogel at 3-8207.

Sign language volunteers

There are several hearing impaired employees at Hanscom who are in need of interpretive services.

Volunteers who are familiar with sign language are asked to help these employees at meetings, conferences and official functions.

Even a short amount of time can make a significant difference to the hearing impaired on the base. Experience with American Sign Language, signed English and finger spelling would be helpful.

For information, call Laurie Cunningham at 3-4054 or Andrew Hodyke at 3-8473.

Volunteers needed

Put your expertise to work and make a difference in someone's life. You might even develop new skills.

Either way, you'll certainly improve your community and make new friends.

And, we'll help you by offering free child care and flexible hours for volunteering at Family Services.

"Worker-bee" and leadership positions are available in the areas of office, lending locker, Attic, brochures, welcoming, Stripes, layette and special projects.

If you enjoy a challenge and want to be part of a winning team, call Jacqi Thomas at 3-4222.

Colonial



Theater

Friday 7:30 p.m. -- SLEEPY HOLLOW - The classic story of "The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow" is brought to life by the gothic filmmaker Tim Burton. Johnny Depp plays Ichabod Crane, and to win the heart of Katrina Van Tassel (Christina Ricci) he will have to brave the nearby woods, even though several decapitated bodies have been found. And then the legend of the axe wielding headless horseman comes together to make this movie. **R** (horror/romance) **105 min** Starring: **Johnny Depp, Christina Ricci**

Saturday 7:30 p.m. -- FLAWLESS - Walt Koontz is a retired police officer, ultraconservative and proud of it, living in New York City's Lower East Side. Late one night, while trying to help a neighbor in trouble, Walt suffers a stroke which leaves him with partial paralysis. Refusing to leave his apartment for therapy, Walt reluctantly agrees to a rehabilitative program that includes singing lessons with a performer who lives upstairs, a sweet-tough drag queen named Rusty. **R** (pervasive language and strong violence) **111 min** Starring: **Robert DeNiro, Philip Seymour Hoffman**

Sunday 7:30 p.m. -- closed

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Schedule is subject to change without notice. Call 3-7940 for movie information.



photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Hanscom School Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
B a k e d l a s a g n a , warm bread- stick, mixed italian veg- etables, fruit	hotdog on a roll, potato patty, fruit, trail mix	G r i l l e d cheese sand- wich, cup of soup, veggie stix with dip, fruit	F r e n c h b r e a d cheese pizza or fish patty on a roll, tossed green salad, fruit cup

What's Happening

Preferred Plus begins April 3

Save 10 percent on purchases at most of our Services facilities by just showing your club card beginning April 3.

The Preferred Plus Program is open to anyone with a valid installation ID card.

Your Club Membership Card is your passport to savings.

Home Alone Training

The next Home Alone Training is Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. In order for youth, ages 10 and 11 to stay home alone, they must complete this course.

Call 3-3739 for registration information.

Youth Center News

Baseball registrations are now being accepted through Feb. 18. Children ages five through 12 are eligible to participate.

Smart Start Class for children ages three to five (with a parent) runs for six weeks on Tuesday nights from 4 to 5 p.m.

Cost is \$15.

This instructional program prepares children for the world of organized sports, targeting parents who want to help their child develop basic motor skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and batting.

Coaches for the girls spring soccer program are needed.

Call us at 3-3308. A babysitting course will be conducted Feb. 22 to 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Space is limited to 12 participants and costs \$20.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation has tickets for the Greater Boston Sportsmen's Show held at the Shriner's Auditorium in Wilmington, Mass., Feb. 11 through 13.

Tickets are \$6.50 each.

Hunting and fishing licenses are available now for the 2000 season.

A fishing or hunting license is \$29 and a sporting license is \$46.50.

Call 3-5316 for additional information.

Aero Club

Learn to fly by contacting Hanscom's Aero Club at 3-5160 for the latest information on how you can "earn your wings" and fly.

Hanscom Lanes

Enjoy Family Bowling every Saturday for \$7 per lane from 3 to 5 p.m. or 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. King and Queen of the Hill Tournament is Feb. 12 and 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Glow Bowl is Saturday and Feb. 19. Reservations are required.

For information, call the Bowling Center at 3-2237.

Bowling Center Manager promises change

by J.C. Corcoran
Services Marketing

This is another article in a continuing series designed to introduce the Hanscom Community to those who manage the various facilities run by the 66th Services Squadron.

One of the busiest facilities on Hanscom and one that has, in the last couple of years, undergone some big improvements, is the Bowling Center.

It has, with its latest service innovation, "Glow Bowling," and the future expansion of the areas formerly occupied by Outdoor Recreation as well as Tickets and Tours, always been a gathering place for the Hanscom community.

Heading up the dedicated staff at the Bowling Center is one of the newest members of our Services Team, Mr. Paul Peters. Paul was born in Erie, Pennsylvania and grew up in Jamestown, N.Y. He has a BS in Business Administration from San Diego State University and began his MW and Services career in 1987 with the United States Marine Corps in San Diego, Calif.

On his way to Hanscom, Mr. Peters had several interesting assignments that included work as the bowling center and golf course manager at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska; the director of Golf at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. and then later at Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. In 1994 to 1995 he was a touring golf professional on the Nike Tour and several other mini tours. Later while at Andersen AFB, Guam, he worked as the assistant manager of the Bowling Center. Following Guam, his travels and work took him to Osan AB, Korea as the bowling center Manager



Mr. Paul Peters

before he joined the 66th Services here at Hanscom this past year.

With Mr. Peters is a dedicated crew that is already planning new and exciting events for the Hanscom community. Joyce, Marcus and the whole "13th Frame" crew are anxiously awaiting upcoming improvements that include a renovated snack bar and game and party rooms. Add to that the future purchase of a new scoring system and already you can see that "things are gonna be a changin'" at the bowling center.

Mr. Peters and his staff invite you to stop by, "anytime we are open" and enjoy the fun and food at the bowling center. Like all of our managers, he encourages his patrons to become active in the bowling center. Got a suggestion or a recommendation, then be sure to stop by for a cup of coffee and chat. In a hurry, then be sure to pick up a customer comment card and let us know how we're doing.

Youth Vacation Camp offered

Registrations are now being accepted for the Youth Center's school vacation camp for children ages nine to 12.

Space is limited to Youth Center members and will operate Feb. 22 to 25 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration is \$40 per child.

Activities include sports, arts and crafts, bowling, swimming and more.

For registration information call 3-3739.



"Disney On Ice"

75th Anniversary Show

Feb. 20 1 p.m.

Feb. 27, 4:30 p.m.

Fleet Center

"Blues Clues Live"

Mar. 12, 2 p.m.

Wang Center

"Globetrotters"

Mar. 24, 7 p.m.

Fleet Center

Visit us for Disney tickets, movie and museum passes, post cards, books, gift items, calling cards and more. The ITT office, located in Bldg. 1530, has tickets available for Bruins and Celtics. Dates and times vary. Call 3-3262.

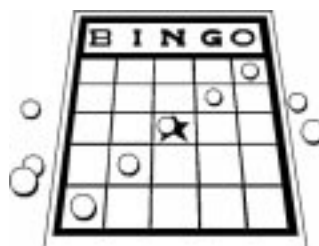
Every Wednesday

Open Ranks BINGO!

at the Enlisted Club

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Regular games start at 6:30 p.m. 18 games in all!



All club members and a bona-fide guest are eligible. Guest pays \$3 seating fee.

Valentine's Day Specials



Officers' Club, Feb. 12

Prime Rib and Lobster Dinner for Two, 6 to 10 p.m. \$30. Reservations accepted for club members. Show club card and receive discount.

Enlisted Club, Feb. 12

Dinner Buffet Special, 6 to 7 p.m. Music provided by Al Thomas. \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers. Advance ticket sales available, Wed. through Fri.

Youth Center, Feb. 12

Teen Dance, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Members \$5 and guests \$8.

Outdoor Recreation, Feb. 14

Get 30% off all ski wear accessories like hats, gloves, goggles, neck warmers, scarfs and more on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14!

Auto Hobby Shop

Bring your "sweatheart" with you on Feb. 14 and receive either a free lift or stall use for 1 hour or a FREE car wash!

Bowling Center

2 for 1 special Feb. 14; bowl with your "sweatheart" from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Happenings

Employment

❑ “Transitioning from a military to a civilian career” will be held at the Family Support Center Monday to Feb. 11.

This workshop is designed to assist voluntarily and involuntarily separating or retiring service members make a successful career transition.

Plan to attend at least six months prior to separation or retirement. Civilian clothing is suggested.

Spouses are welcome.

This class begins at 12:30 Monday and ends at 12:30 p.m. Friday.

Tuesday through Thursday class hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call 3-4222 to register.

Parenting

❑ **In Step** will be held at the Family Support Center Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This month we welcome our first guest speaker to discuss how to deal with ex-spouses and the impact ex-spouses have on the new family.

Bring your lunch and share your opinions and experiences.

Call 3-4222 to register.

Fitness enhancement

❑ **Back safety** class will be held at the HAWC Monday from 11 a.m. to noon.

Learn to build a stronger, more flexible, more fit back and how to prevent straining your back.

Call 3-6560 to register.

Work and life

❑ **Veterans’ benefits counseling** will be held at the Family Support Center Monday from 3 to 4 p.m.

One-on-one counseling is provided to transitioning service members to answer questions about veterans’ benefits.

Call 3-4222 for an appointment.

❑ **Carpal tunnel syndrome prevention class** will be held at the HAWC Monday from 9 to 10 a.m.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is a health hazard afflicting many office workers today.

Call 3-6560 to register.

❑ **Managing stress** (video - 25 minutes) will be held at the HAWC Wednesday starting at noon.

Job burn-out. Illness. Absenteeism. These problems can be traced to stress in the workplace, in personal lives, or both. Although life cannot be made stress-free, our reactions to stress can be controlled.

This video inspires people to reduce stress by controlling their reactions to challenges in the workplace and motivates them to break habits that cause stress in personal lives and the workplace.

Registration not required.

❑ **Love on the rocks** class will be held at the HAWC Wednesday and Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m.

Learn how to avoid pitfalls in your relationship.

Call 3-6560 to register.

Thrift Shop, 274-8079

❑ The Minuetman Thrift shop’s normal business hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for sales.

The Thrift Shop is open Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for consignments.

The next consignment day is Saturday.

Patriot Enlisted Association

❑ Patriot Enlisted Association The PEA invites all technical sergeant’s and below to come out to our next meeting Feb. 11 at the Patriot Enlisted Club to meet our new Executive Council and to meet one on one with the Command Chief Master Sergeant.

With a new council come new ideas. The PEA is an open forum for technical sergeant’s and below to discuss ideas and issues as peers. We foster Team Work, Camaraderie for each other and the Hanscom community so we can make the difference happen. As a body of peers we can put a voice to Housing, Community involvement, and Quality of Life issues to the ESC Command Chief Master Sergeant.

For information contact Staff Sgt. Chris Kanski at 3-4923 or E-mail Chris.Kanski@hanscom.af.mil.

Company Grade Officers’ Council

❑ The council is open to all company grade officer’s of all services for the purpose of maintaining a forum for junior officers to develop professionally, serve the Hanscom Community, provide a social outlet and develop an esprit de corps among the members.

February’s community service project takes place Wednesday.

If you’re willing to spend a few hours of your Saturday morning tutoring Junior High School Students in downtown Boston, give 2nd Lt. Felicia Bell at 3-9559 or 1st Lt. Teka Thomas at 3-8974 a call for details.

Our Valentine’s Day Flower Sale fundraiser is in full swing and we need assistance in assembling flowers Thursday. If you’re willing to give up a couple of hours on a Sunday Afternoon contact 1st Lt. Liane Witt at Liane.witt@Hanscom.af. Our next meeting will be Friday at the Officers’ club.

Officers’ Wives’ Club

❑ The **Officers’ Wives’ Club** invites those eligible officers’ spouses to become members.

This club hosts a monthly meeting for social and service purposes. In addition, numerous activity groups are offered to members such as bridge, bowling, bunco, mah-jong and book and garden clubs.

Consider a membership in this club and experience the many benefits it has to offer.

For membership information call Kendra Ellmyer at 274-7489.

For activities information call Lisa O’ Neill at (978) 244-0448.

❑ Scholarship applications are available at the Base Education Office, the Enlisted Club, the Officers’

Club, the Base Library, the Family Support Center and the Guidance Counselor Office of the local area high schools, including New Hampshire.

Scholarships are open to high school seniors and dependent spouses. Applicants must be a dependent of an active duty, retired, or deceased military member of any branch of the service, to include members of Wives’ Clubs and reside in one of the six New England States.

There will be two special category awards, one in engineering and the other to a vocational-technical school.

Applications must be postmarked by March 17.

Contact Dianne Popik at (781) 275-3888, Ann Phillips at (781) 274-8048 or Lois LaFleur at (781) 274-8110 for information.

❑ The Officers’ Wives’ Club’s February function will be an Antiques Luncheon to be held February 15.

Jane Meterparel and Douglas W. Stinson of Heirloom Clinic will be on hand to make appraisals of your family finds.

Bring one to three items or a photo for appraisal. They also purchase items. See the Yankee Flyer for the lunch details and price. Deadline for reservations will be Thursday. Come and see if “You Could Be Sitting on a Fortune.”



Chapel, Bldg. 1603, 3-3538

❑ **Catholic Masses:** Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 and 11 a.m. and weekdays at 12:05 p.m.

❑ **Protestant worship:** general Protestant Service — Sundays at 9 a.m.; Gospel Service — Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Jewish services:** the first and third Friday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Eastern Orthodox:** for information contact Tech. Sgt. James M. Boubonis at 274-8714.

❑ **For information** on Chapel services, call 3-3538 or 3-3539.

Chapel Events

Black History month

In honor of Black History month the Protestant Chapel community is presenting a classical music concert featuring the VIVACE Strings Sunday at 5 p.m. in the Chapel.

The performance is presented by Project String Training and Educational Program, a program sponsored by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston University School of the Arts and the New England Conservatory encouraging African American students in the classical music profession.

The hour-long concert is free to all members of Hanscom.

A reception will follow.

Call Chaplain (Capt.) Dennis Saucier at 3-3538 for more information.

National Prayer Luncheon

The National Prayer Luncheon will be held Feb. 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Officer’s Club. Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Lorraine Potter, deputy chief of the Chaplain Service will speak on “who do you serve?”

Cost for the lunch of lasagna, salad and rolls is \$5 for all attending.

Tickets are on sale at the Officer’s Club until Feb. 23 and are available to all military and civilian members of Hanscom.

For information call Chaplain (Capt.) Dennis Saucier at 3-3538.

People’s Corner

66th Medical Group

Happy birthday to **Capt. Jerry Bogert, Capt. Arthur McIntosh, Staff Sgt. Milton Higgins, Senior Airman Randy Smith, Airman 1st Class Jason Douglas and Jose Sanchez.**

Congratulations to the following on their recent promotions **Tech. Sgt. Tom Martin, Staff Sgt. Joann Johnston, Staff Sgt. Rob Riplett, and Staff Sgt. Shannon Holland.**

Congratulations to **Tech. Sgt. Brenda Fernandes** and her husband **Gary**, on the birth of their son, **Christopher Thomas.** Congratulations to **Staff Sgt. Tricia Levangie** and her husband **Greg**, on the

birth of their daughter, **Gabrielle Marie.**

Farewell to **Kaybeth Whitten.**

66th Logistics Squadron

Happy Birthday to **Richard Ciano, Staff Sgt. Shawn Muter, Jeffrey Wright, Valentine Solis, Tech. Sgt. Sandra Donaldson and Ken Robinson.**

Congratulations to our annual award winners **Senior Airman Jennifer Keiber, Tech. Sgt. Jerome Agnew, Valorie Ferguson and Vicki Bauer.**

Congratulations to **Staff Sgt. David Villarreal** on his promotion.